

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Christopher Tillquist, representative to the Sustainability Council

DATE: Wednesday, April 3, 2024

SUBJECT: Sustainability Council meeting held March 27th, 2024

The meeting began with the usual “One Green Dream” introductions. Efforts included using bulk mulch rather than bagged mulch to reduce plastic waste, planting trees at home, and installing a dual-flush toilet at home. If any faculty senators would like to share with me their efforts, I’ll be happy to pass them on to the Sustainability Council!

Justin Mog (Assistant to the Provost for Sustainability Initiatives) has scheduled a Sustainability Tour for interested Senators. The tour will take place on May 1st at 2pm. The meetup location will be the [Garden Commons](#) next to the Baptist Center (near the base of the SAC ramp). Dr. Mog promises to limit the tour to 50 minutes so that participants will not be late for our May meeting.

In response to a recent inquiry from a Senator regarding the possibility of adding more parking bays with charging stations for electric vehicles, I would like to provide some context. The original charging bays were made possible through grant funding secured by a faculty member. The Council's current position is that all vehicles, whether electric or gas-powered, have an environmental impact that raises sustainability concerns. As such, at this time the Council will not be actively advocating for or coordinating efforts to install additional charging stations for electric cars on campus. The Council remains committed to exploring and promoting sustainable transportation solutions that align with our institution's environmental goals.

Representatives from [Lockett & Farley](#) and [SmithGroup](#) gave a presentation reviewing the plans and details for the new J.B. Speed School of Engineering Student Success Center.

In the area of Education and Research, there is an [upcoming meeting](#) for Advancing Participatory Sciences to held on April 18th at the Urban Design Studio at the Envirome Institute focusing on integrating health, environment, and community resilience.

In the area of Planning and Administration, there was a reminder that four buildings (Music, JB Speed, Natural Sciences, and Schneider) will shut down this summer and into fall for major renovations. A primary focus of the renovations is to improve air quality and reduce energy use. Plans are being made to phase out single-serving bottled water on campus. From physical plant comes news that Louisville Water Company has a new alert system to detect water leaks—this is available to Louisville homeowners!